

# I. AMENDMENTS

## A. IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

- a'  
sup  
B1  
cont.
1. (Once Amended) A linear electromagnetic machine comprising:  
a movable member;  
a stationary member defining at least one stationary pole;  
a phase winding positioned such that, when current is flowing in the phase winding, the at least one stationary pole is energized; and  
a circuit for energizing the phase winding over a plurality of energization cycles to produce a given force tending to cause linear movement of the movable member with respect to the stationary member, the energizing of the phase winding also producing a normal force tending to cause movement of the movable and stationary members in a direction normal to the desired linear movement;  
wherein the normal force profile experienced by the at least one stationary pole over a first energization cycle is different from the normal force profile experienced by the at least one stationary pole over a subsequent energization cycle.